

*W. O. Lester. (Recorder.)*

A SMALL ENTERPRISE WELL KEPT

# COLUMBUS COURIER

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## The Passing of the Years

*"We Spend Our Years as a Tale That is Told."*

In the Book of Holy Writ we are told that the Israelites, while journeying from Egypt to the Promised Land were lost in the wilderness for thirty-seven and a half years. Every time they tried to find themselves they became lost all the more. So they began to pass the time away by telling stories—stories concerning themselves and the people from whom they had fled; stories about the wonderful crossing of the Red Sea, the miraculous guiding of the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night. They told of personal encounter, of strange adventure, of great exploits and marvelous achievement.

Indeed, in those days there were people who were trained in the art of story telling. Their business was the relating of incidents, real and fancied, and they were paid for it by passing around a hat for the collection just as our modern minstrels on the street corners receive their compensation.

As we are nearing the time when the year 1911 will pass into that of 1912 it might not be inadvisable to pause for a few moments and consider what a story our whole life has been. Has it been a good story or a bad story; a tragic story or a mirthful story; a wise or a foolish story; a clean or a filthy story; a story of success or a story of failure?

### *Every Person's Life is an Interesting Story*

Have you never sat around the blazing hearth and listened to some one relate interesting experiences of the past? Have you never read Nathaniel Hawthorne's "Twice Told Tales" nor Washington Irving's "Tales of a Traveler," nor Robinson Crusoe, nor "Swiss Family Robinson"? If you have, you found them very interesting. But interesting as any of these maybe, I assure you, the story of many an obscure life well told would be just as fascinating.

Why do we all like to read biography and autobiography? Because they are the stories of eminent human lives. But there is many a human life whose story if well told would be just as sympathetic and touching in its true-hearted simplicity as the great

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## The Ingathering

By Wilbur D. Nesbit

*"And the feast of ingathering at the year's end"*  
—Exodus xxxiv, 22.

So the year dies, and so  
Into the afterglow  
All the year's days go.

We count them, one by one,  
Days filled with shade or sun,  
Days of great tasks begun,  
Days of achievement,  
Days when we, weak and frail,  
Felt all our courage fail,  
When we, benumbed and pale,  
Met our bereavement.

And far and far away  
We find the year's first day—  
But was it sad or gay.  
Can we remember?  
Slowly they die, the days,  
As does some ruddy blaze—  
End in a smoking haze  
Or crumbling ember.

Joys—there were joys to spare;  
Griefs—there were griefs to bear,  
Ah, and the joys all fair  
Spent on the morrows!  
Joys were the clinking gold  
Dropping from out our hold—  
We, like to misers old,  
Clung to our sorrows.

And this is stranger still,  
Sorrows that worked us ill  
Nor grow as sorrows will,  
To things we cherish;  
And out of all the year  
We find that sigh and tear  
As blessings now appear  
And cannot perish.

So do we count the days  
Down all of time's long ways  
And with dim peace we gaze  
On bond and fetter,  
And know at last that all  
Of the blind blows that fall  
And the cups brimmed with gall  
But make us better.

So dies the year, and so  
Gently we come to know  
How fair the afterglow.

## Agriculture, More Profitable

*Business Methods plus Intensive Farming, the Ideal Plan*

More people are looking toward the farm today than ever before. And the farm now promises greater financial returns for a given amount of work than it ever did.

Livestock and grain bring a good price the year they did ten years ago. And the rapid growth of towns and cities, plus the greatly increasing non-producing element, insures there remaining higher. Improved transportation facilities also helps the farmer in securing profits, because his products can be placed on the market quicker, in better condition and at less cost.

The farmer of the twentieth century is coming to be a business farmer. His soil will be better tilled and everything grown on the farm will be used to an advantage. By employing more intensive methods and greater diversity of production his yields will be practically doubled.

When men take hold of farming in earnest they will work the soil for all there is in it, just as they conduct stores and factories. Our farmers are beginning to do this. The American farmer is industrious, frugal and intelligent, and yet as a rule he does not farm on business principles.

He has acquired his fertile acres too easily and the handing of large areas has bred carelessness and over confidence. The time has come when he must conserve his resources—when he must get greater results from his land, whether he is farming fifty, one hundred or five hundred acres. The farmer can beat a city man hands down if he makes up his mind to run his affairs on business principles. And the farmer who is fortunate enough to own a chunk of dirt in the Mimbres valley is the man who has them all beated.

## New Store Building

Wm. Tate has begun the construction of a new store building 24x50 feet, just west of Ravel's store, this week. There is to be a concrete basement underneath and the entire structure is to be fireproof.

Turkeys for sale: E. A. Carslock.